

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 TRSE-00 /057 W  
-----092282 040123Z /75  
R 031301Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5049

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 3051

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, NI, XA  
SUBJ: AFRICAN ATTITUDES TOWARD NIGERIA

REF: STATE 208244

1. RELATIONS BETWEEN CHAD AND NIGERIA COULD BETERMED GOOD BUT COOL.  
THE DISPORPORTIONATE SIZE,  
WEALTH,AND GEOGRAPHIC POSITION OF THE TWO COUNTRIES  
LEADS TO MINOR MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND JEALOUSY ON  
THE PART OF THE CHADIANS. LIKE THE ELEPHANT AND  
THE MOUSE, EVEN A MINOR SHRUG BY THE FORMER CAN  
ENDANGER THE LIFE OF THE LATTER.NIGERIA, LYING  
ASTRIDE ONE OF CHAD'S FEW ACCESS ROUTES TO THE SEA,  
CAN AND DOES INADVERTENTLY CAUSE CRISIS AFTER CRISIS  
IN THE STEADY FLOW OF VITAL SUPPLIES IN CHAD. FOR  
INSTANCE, A MINOR FUEL SHORTAGE IN NIGERIA CAUSED  
A MAJOR CRISIS IN CHAD LAST SPRING. NIGERIA'S INSENSI-  
TIENESS TO THE RESULTS OF ITS ACTION FURTHER  
ACERBATES THE PROBLEM.

2. CHAD, HAVING A MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF ITS  
OWN, HAS NO PROBLEM ACCEPTING A MILITARY GOVERN-  
MENT IN NIGERIA. HOWEVER, THE DISTANT PERSONAL  
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE TWO  
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GOVERNMENTS STAND IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE CLOSE  
PERSONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN CHAD'S OFFICER CORPS  
AND THOSE OF SUCH COUNTRIES AS NIGER, MALI, AND THE  
CONGO.

3. IN ADDITION TO THE STRAINS BETWEEN RICH AND  
POOR NEIGHBORS, CHAD'S STRONG FRANCOPHONE BACKGROUND

LEADS TO A DISPARAGING OF NIGERIANS AS BEING SOMEWHAT  
LESS THAN QUOTE CIVILIZED UNQUOTE, (A CONDITION  
WHICH IS PROBABLY RECIPROCATED BY NIGERIANS).

4. CHAD IS PRAGMATIC ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE THAT  
NIGERIA'S POWER, SIZE, AND WEALTH GIVE YZ AN IMPORTANT  
ROLE IN AFRICA, AND CHAD WILL GO ALONG WITH NIGERIA  
LEADERSHIP ONHONY ITMES OF PERIPHERAL INTEREST OR  
ANY ITEMS OF SHARED INTEREST. HOWEVER, CHAD IS AN  
EXCEEDINGLY PROUD NATION AND WOULD RECOGNIZE NO  
OTHER COUNTRY AS ITS GENERAL SPOKESMAN. IT WOULD  
PARTICULARLY NEVER RECOGNIZE A WEALTHY COASTAL,  
ANGOLPHONE STATEM BRADFORD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NDJAME03051  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770320-1253  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 208244  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1391558  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AFRICAN ATTITUDES TOWARD NIGERIA  
**TAGS:** PINR, PGOV, NI, XA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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